

The Standard.

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ETERNAL TEARS.

"Sicily has been an eternal source of tears." That tells the story in a sentence. For centuries the mountains and sea have waged warfare against the inhabitants of that island, just as sailors or a board of sanitation might have carried on a war of extermination against rats.

The inhabitants are driven from their homes only to return with the subsidence of the earthquake and the receding of the sea. They enjoy a period of security and again are set upon and again are driven out, and they have been enduring this thing over and over again until they must have become resigned to what seems to be the inevitable, just as we are reconciled to a death from natural causes.

Those who go down to a sudden death in these cataclysms are among the fortunate, but those who live to be bereft of family and friends and dethroned in reason by the horrors of the scene suffer a living death. They should have the pity and aid of the people of all nations.

IN THE FAR NORTH.

The most surprising development in this continent has been the growth of sections of Canada. When the middle age was studying geography school thirty years ago, that part of Canada bordering on Hudson Bay was a frozen waste, a land of no account. Hudson Bay had been closed to some extent and the magic northern pole had been located in that region, but beyond that the north was a wilderness, a land of no account, which any one might have had for nothing. After making peace with the Hudson Bay company and its trappers, but thirty years of human effort has brought about as great a change in the industrial life of extreme northern Canada as has occurred in Dark Africa, where the source of the Nile remained a secret for countless centuries.

Five years after the Union Pacific railroad reached Ogden, there was but one "city" in all Manitoba and that was Winnipeg with a population of less than 2,000. Winnipeg now has 22,000 people and more taxable property than the northern half of Utah, and Winnipeg is now the distributing center of a territory extending north to the Hudson Bay of which history has little to say thirty years ago, and a railroad is building through that region, formerly classed as barren and wild, to connect with Fort Churchill, on Hudson Bay. The road will be 650 miles long and serve as an outlet for the shiploads of wheat raised in northern Manitoba.

There is no section of country with a

greater number of small and large lakes than Manitoba. Beginning with Lake Winnipeg, a chain of lakes extends to the Arctic regions. Lake Winnipeg is one of the most beautiful bodies of fresh water in the world. It is 275 miles long and 40 to 60 miles wide, with an area five times greater than our own Great Salt Lake, and almost paralleling this great body of water are Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipegosis. Lake Winnipeg's outlet to Hudson Bay is Nelson River, which is nothing less than a chain of lakes for 200 miles, through some of the most picturesque country in that land of pristine forest and wild prairie.

LONGER DAYS.

The days are growing perceptibly longer. December 21 was the shortest day of the winter and since then the sun has been rising earlier and setting later. Unobstructed by mountain peaks, the sun should shine on Ogden at 7:18 a. m. and depart behind the Great Salt Lake at 4:49 p. m., making a day of sunshine of a little over nine hours and a half.

This lengthening of the days will continue up to June 21 when the sun will appear at 4:34 a. m. and depart at 7:28, making a day of nearly fifteen hours, or two-thirds more sunshine than at present.

With the increase in the hours of sunlight comes the first effort of the sun and earth to restore to the north the days of spring and to the southern hemisphere the period of snow and frost.

New Years would have an added significance if the change in the marking of time occurred on December 21 instead of on January 1.

THE SOURCE OF PRESPERITY.

A well posted student of world affairs questioned the accuracy of the statement in the Standard a day last week in which this paper said the output of gold in South Africa would total \$165,000,000. The growth of the mining industry in the Transvaal has been so great since the close of the Boer war that those who were then familiar with the statistics of gold production are surprised to learn that the gold reef has almost doubled in productivity.

The United States continues to occupy second place in the gold column, the yield of our mines for 1908 being estimated at \$96,000,000, an increase of several million over the previous year, notwithstanding the falling off in the output of a number of mining states, including Utah and Nevada.

The world's total production of gold is placed at \$427,000,000, which is three times the yield of the world's mines in the early nineties. This great flow of gold from placer and lode claims has been the life of trade. The improved condition of trade throughout the world within the past ten years is attributed to this large volume of gold pouring into the arteries of commerce. Without the increased production in gold, one cannot but conclude that the industrial world would have been seriously retarded in its development. There could have been little or no expansion, unless some method of giving greater efficiency to the gold in use, had been devised.

OUTLOOK IS GOOD.

The foreign commerce of the world for the year 1908 will show a falling off as compared with 1907 according to figures compiled from official sources. Totals for all countries through December 31 have not yet been compiled, but those in hand, up to the last few days of the month indicate a marked decrease in imports and exports for the twelve months. This is due, in part, to the falling off in imports to this country, which are over \$200,000,000 less than last year. Exports from the United States, on the other hand, have nearly held their own and bid fair to forge ahead during the next few months. Of the foreign countries, Great Britain maintains the lead, with imports amounting to nearly \$3,000,000,000 and exports of over half that figure. Germany follows, with France and the Netherlands taking the next places. With the United States the immediate situation in the west is more promising than it has been since the fall of 1907 and arrangements have been made for the placing of heavy orders in all lines of work during the first few weeks of the new year, with the result that 1909 starts with a new impetus to prosperity which should help it to break many existing records before it yields place to 1910.

EQUALS AN EARTHQUAKE.

A dispatch from London says the streets of that city are filled with unemployed. The official figures give the total of those receiving aid from the various public charities throughout England as \$26,325. This does not include the thousands who have not applied for official assistance. The ranks of the unemployed have been swelled since Thursday by the

entire allied building trades. There has been little building work for months, but the present cold wave has caused whatever construction operations were under way to cease altogether. The charitable institutions are completely swamped, and streets and parks are filled with scantily clad, starving, men, women and children. Unable to secure money to pay their rent, whole families by the score are thrown daily upon the streets by merciless landlords.

The homeless throng the streets during the day and huddle in doorways and parks during the nights. The temperature has been below freezing each night, but the city stations are too small to accommodate the sufferers, and the spectacle of these creatures, ragged and starving, with the mute appeal of hounded animals in their eyes, beggars description.

The police are having great difficulty in suppressing the riots started by street agitators who are preaching a doctrine of self-preservation by loot and pillage, rather than death by cold and starvation. The crowds gather about the places of amusement and, until driven away by the police, call upon the well-dressed, opulent theater goers to witness their suffering.

SEQUEL TO CHICAGO
NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Chicago, Jan. 1.—An automobile accident in which three women were injured, and what is alleged to have been a murder, came as sequels today to New Year celebrations. The automobile mishap followed a merry dinner in a prominent hotel. The machine ran into another car which had halted by the roadside, and Mrs. Joseph Ashton, Miss Ida Koenig and Miss Minnie Koenig were thrown to the pavement. They were taken to a hospital. The chauffeur was arrested.

The first homicide of the year occurred when Daniel Rogers, after a celebration, returned to his boarding house, it is alleged, in an intoxicated condition. Rudolph Witte, an electrician, who is also Rogers' landlord, is said to have ordered the letter from the place, whereupon Rogers is said to have stabbed him to death.

SMALL CONSUMERS PAY
MOST OF COAL PROFITS

Guthrie, Jan. 1.—That the small consumer pays most of the profits of the coal producing companies is the statement made by John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, in a letter received from him today by Attorney General West of Oklahoma. The letter was an answer to an inquiry from Mr. West for information that might be used in West's pending prosecution of coal producers of Oklahoma.

After stating that railroad companies and big manufacturing concerns purchase their coal at a small profit to the producer, and sometimes even at a loss, Mr. Mitchell says: "On the whole, the average price received for coal is not high. Indeed, it is so much lower than the price at which coal is sold in other countries, that its very cheapness becomes an extravagance and not an economy. The unfortunate feature is that the small consumer pays so much, and the large consumer so little."

PARTY OF TWENTY
MAKE THEIR ESCAPE

Catania, Jan. 1.—While nothing yet is definitely known concerning the Americans supposed to have been in Messina at the time of the earthquake, it was learned today that a party of 20 English speaking persons, which may have included some Americans, escaped, crossing a large tract of country that was not harmed by the shocks, in the direction of Palermo.

Soldiers have been called from the rescue work at Messina to quell disturbances in the surrounding villages, where the survivors were in a state of riot because assistance had not been given them.

They could not understand the difficulty, indeed the impossibility of securing all immediately and providing the needy thousands with food and shelter. On the arrival of the soldiers, however, the disturbances soon ended, the peasants being speedily subdued.

The doctors of the Russian and British squadrons have joined in establishing two hospitals. Both are full to overflowing. The seriously wounded have been taken aboard the ships.

Several Russian soldiers have been killed during the rescue work by falling walls.

STEAMER CATCHES
FIRE AT SEA

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 1.—With seventeen passengers aboard, the Norwegian steamer Texas, from Carlsbad for Havana, in eight, five miles below Savannah, caught fire early today. The flames were discovered in the after hold. The Savannah fire department sent apparatus to fight the blaze. Captain Peterson commands the ship.

MASKED HIGHWAYMEN
CAPTURED BY A POSSE

Tulsa, Jan. 1.—Two masked highwaymen who held up twenty-five men near Tulsa, last night, were captured early today by a posse of officers and landed in jail. The robbers proved to be Hershall Wolfe and Charles Haubach, young men of this city. The robbers were overtaken several miles from here, where they

had taken refuge in a small hut. They made little resistance.

ERB DEFENSE OPENS
WITH ADDRESS TO JURY

Media, Pa., Jan. 1.—The commonwealth closed its argument in the Erb case here today.

The defense opened with an address to the jury, contending that Mrs. Catherine Beisel shot her brother-in-law to death after a fierce struggle in self-defense, during which he wrested the pistol from him. The defense argued that when Mrs. Beisel secured the revolver she shot rapidly and in the smoke, did not know how far she was from Erb, who retreated toward his bedroom, receiving three bullets in his body.

The jury was also informed that "Erb had sought in every way to rid himself of his wife by making it most unpleasant for her at Red Gables, when he was unable to bring charges that would sustain divorce proceedings."

Mrs. Erb collapsed and had to be carried from the room just before adjournment.

Mrs. Beisel will testify after other witnesses have been examined.

CORBETT WILLING TO
MEET NEGRO JOHNSON

Leadville, Colo., Jan. 1.—James J. Corbett, former heavyweight champion pugilist, tonight announced his willingness to meet Jack Johnson if it were necessary to bring the championship back to a white man.

"My stage career," he said, "is the only thing which prevents me from at once taking up the gauntlet. It makes my blood boil to think that a black man should hold the title—a man who has not shown himself a great fighter. Johnson simply is not in the championship class."

"Jeffie was very foolish in not accepting that \$50,000 offer from him, win, lose, or draw, because he is even more than a match for the victor of the Burns fight. If necessary, I will challenge Johnson in order to endeavor to retain the championship to the white race."

DENVER BOY AND MUGGY
SHOELS FIGHT TEN ROUNDS.

Denver, Jan. 1.—Young Erlenborn of Denver and Muggy Shoels of Cheyenne fought ten rounds before the Wayside Athletic club at Petersburg this afternoon, Erlenborn winning the decision. The local boy was always the aggressor and outpointed his opponent. Both were considerably damaged.

Young Montana of Butte won in the third round from Hackey Harris of Milwaukee, Harris' seconds throwing up the sponge; and Charles Lawrence (colored) of Pueblo and the "Battling Swede" of Denver fought an eight round draw.

GOOD NEWS FOR
MANY AMERICANS

Washington, Jan. 1.—Good news for many Americans was received at the state department today in a cablegram from Ambassador Griscom at Rome, who reported that the Italian foreign office had assured him that Taormina, Sicily has escaped uninjured. This, Mr. Griscom says, answers many inquiries received from this country, regarding relatives and friends there. The Italian foreign office, Mr. Griscom adds, has received a dispatch saying there is no official information with regard to the American consulate at Messina.

BRAKEMAN BURNED
TO DEATH IN WRECK

Seattle, Jan. 1.—Following a collision of Northern Pacific freight trains in the yards at Tappanish, Brakeman Gannon was killed and his body was charred to death this morning. The wrecked freight trains were destroyed by fire and the road was tied up all day.

INDIVIDUALS IN
MONTANA SUBSCRIBE

Helena, Jan. 1.—Individual subscriptions are being forwarded to the Italian relief fund and it is expected that the legislature, which convenes Monday, will take some action in the matter.

An entire battalion of the German army is being trained in the use of airships.

LEAPS THROUGH
WINDOW TO
SIDEWALKYOUNG WOMAN HAS AN ACUTE
ATTACK OF INSANITY.

She Sustains Injuries From Which It Is Feared She Cannot Recover.

New York, Jan. 2.—Mrs. Ethel Henderson, a widow of 28 years, leaped through a parlor window at her father's home in Brooklyn last night, and sustained injuries from which it is feared she cannot recover. She is a daughter of Andrew Gray, a well-to-do insurance man. Her mind, temporarily unbalanced as the result of grief over the death of her husband several years ago, young Mrs. Henderson, it is said, had been closely watched, but last night her mind came acute, and after dashing down the stairs and attempting to get out the front door, she turned and plunged through the window. As she did so she struck the frame which turned her body to the side so that she fell heavily on the sidewalk. The young woman was hurried to a hospital.

WANT ADS BRING BIG RESULTS

1-2 Price
SaleOf Women's, Misses'
and Children's
COATS

In which we offer our entire line of Coats. Every dollar's worth of this season's Women's, Misses' and Children's Coats must go at HALF PRICE

THE WOMAN WHO BUYS WITH THE GREATEST ECONOMY FOR HERSELF AND DAUGHTERS BUYS AT THIS SALE BECAUSE IT MEANS A SAVING OF

ONE-HALF ORIGINAL PRICE

LAST @ THOMAS

SHIP'S BATTLE
WITH STORM
AND FIRE

Heroic Efforts of Officers and Men Saved the Vessel From Complete Destruction.

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—Surgeon C. F. Stokes, who was in command of the hospital ship Relief during the storm in which the vessel had such a narrow escape from ship wreck, arrived in this city yesterday from the Orient. Stokes tells a graphic tale of the terrific battle which the ship in his command had with storm and fire. When the ship was rendered practically helpless by a typhoon, fire broke out, and it was only after the most heroic efforts by officers and crew that the vessel was saved from complete destruction. The surgeon declared that the enlisted men of the hospital corps on board the Relief proved themselves fighting men of the first water. Dr. Stokes denied the report that there was friction on board the Relief. In this connection he said:

"We passed through trials such as few ships survive, and throughout it all the discipline was perfect. In all matters pertaining to the handling of the ship Captain Lecain's judgment was supreme and never at any time questioned by me."

HEIR TO WALDEN ESTATE
APPEARS IN CINCINNATI

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 2.—An heir to the estate of Mrs. Mathilde Walden, who died here last July, leaving an estate valued at \$200,000 without known heirs, has appeared in Cincinnati according to a dispatch to The Times. This claimant is James E. Walden 28 years of age, who declares he is a nephew of the dead woman and the sole heir to her estate. According to Walden's story, he was kidnapped at Tropico four years ago. He thinks persons interested in depriving him of the estate committed the kidnapping.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CAUSES FRIENDS ANXIETY

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Friends of State Representative Christopher Beck are puzzled concerning his whereabouts and some are of the opinion that he has met with an accident or violence. He departed from his residence Thursday to procure transportation to Springfield and has not since been seen. It is said he had considerable money with him.

SUSPECTED NEGRO
MURDERER ARRESTED

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 2.—William North, a negro, was arrested yesterday on suspicion that he is William Macy, alias Thomas Mason, who is wanted in New York for murder. Morrie has a scar on his face and in other respects answers to the description of the fugitive. His Bertillon measurements will be sent to New York today together with his picture.

FATHER INSISTS ON
THE ARREST OF
HIS SON

Young Man Had Uttered Some Worthless Checks.

New York, Jan. 2.—Isaac Lieberman, a broker, summoned a policeman last night and had his twenty-one-year-old son, Harry, arrested. Young Lieberman, it is alleged, uttered some worthless drafts, and although his mother made them good during her husband's absence, when Mr. Lieberman returned, he declined to countenance such an adjustment of affairs and placed the matter in the hands of the police. The youth was formerly a traveling salesman for a Milwaukee firm, and it is charged that while in Philadelphia, after leaving the firm's employ, he cashed the worthless checks at a hotel there, one for \$100 and the other for \$50. He was locked up.

NEW \$200,000
VAUDEVILLE THEATER

Chicago, Jan. 2.—A new \$200,000 vaudeville theater structure to be erected and opened by November 1st, is the latest addition to numerous theater schemes for Chicago. The new house is to be operated by William Morris, Inc., the vaudeville company which operates the American Music hall, Lincoln Square theater and the Broadway theater in New York, and is in the vaudeville business in Brooklyn, Boston, Newark, N. J., Washington, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and Philadelphia.

William Morris says the land for the site has been procured and that the financing has been guaranteed by Felix Isman of Philadelphia, a group of Chicago real estate men and a Chicago attorney.

It is the intention to seat about 2,200 people and allow smoking.

The theater will be one of a chain of twelve from New York to Kansas.

PROMINENT ASTRONOMER
DIES AT HOME IN EVANSTON

Chicago, Jan. 2.—George Washington Hough, professor of astronomy at Northwestern university and director of the Dearborn observatory, died suddenly at his home in Evanston yesterday. Professor Hough was 72 years old, was a leading astronomer, his principal contributions to science being his observations regarding the planet Jupiter. He measured more double stars than any astronomer now living, about 550 in all.

How to Live.

Live this day as if your last—Horace.

OPEN REBELLION
OF OKLAHOMA
PRISONERS

Men When Brought From the Mines Cheer.

Leavenworth, Kas., Jan. 2.—Open rebellion is threatened among the Oklahoma prisoners here as a result of the charges of Miss Kate Bernard of Oklahoma, state superintendent of charities and corrections, that the prisoners were mistreated. Last night the prisoners began cheering and shouting as they were brought from the mine and continued the demonstration most of the night. Extra guards were summoned this morning and the convicts, temporarily quelled, went back to work, but further trouble is feared. Three times the usual number reported sick today.

Warden Haskell today notified the investigating committee, recently appointed by Governor Hoch, to act jointly with a committee from Oklahoma, and was advised to use kind but stern measures in suppressing the mutiny.

The committee today intimated it would make a number of recommendations to the governor, relative to new kitchens and a better preparation of the prisoners' food.

GIRLS ARE SEARCHING
FOR THEIR PET COLLIE

Chicago, Jan. 2.—It is not a happy new year for Margaret and Frances Lyon, two Chicago girls who are now in Omaha to find their lost collie, Leo. They were informed that the dog, which disappeared here, had appeared on the Nebraska farm where he was born, but the rumor proved false and they will now start home.

Mrs. Lyon announces that she will send a picture of the animal to every section of the country, where he is likely to turn up and will institute a search as carefully as if he were a lost child.

VIVISECTION IS FAVORED.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 2.—The governing council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science adopted a resolution offered by William H. Welch of the Johns Hopkins University condemning the anti-vivisection movement. The resolution says:

"Animal experimentation has been of incalculable benefit to medical science and art, the progress of which is absolutely dependent on experimental methods, as are all the physical and natural sciences," and declares, "Scientific experiments on living animals are essential to the maintenance and progress of medicine and biology."

How to Live.
Live this day as if your last—Horace.

FATHER JOHN OF
CRONSTADT
IS DEAD

He Had Hosts of Followers and the Czar for a Friend.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 2.—Father John of Cronstadt, is dead. The noted priest for some time had been suffering from chronic dropsy and intestinal complaints and the end, though sudden, was not unexpected. Father John was born Nov. 30, 1829. As a priest of the Andrew Church at Cronstadt, his zeal and devotion drew about him hosts of followers and attracted the attention of the emperor, who constantly befriended him. A pilgrimage of the present empress to the shrine of St. Seraphim, which among pious Russians was believed to have been responsible for the birth of the desired heir to the throne, was undertaken on Father John's advice. The late years of Father John's life were clouded by the ill-repute of the sect of Johnites, which was exploited by an unscrupulous and immoral group of men and women to their great financial advantage. The priest's eyes were opened to this only last summer, when he anathematized the false leaders.

IMPORTS AT SAN FRANCISCO
IN 1908 WERE \$46,187,738

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—Total imports through the custom house at this port for the year 1908 were valued at \$46,187,738, according to incomplete figures, that amount showing a gain over the similar business of the previous year of over \$2,000,000. Exports were \$32,595,750, an increase of over \$1,000,000. Exports to the Philippine Islands for the year amounted to \$3,321,082, while imports from the group fell off to \$370,765. Total monies collected by the custom house from all sources amounted to \$7,846,185.

GIRL OBSERVES NEW YEAR
SWIMMING IN NEW YORK BAY

New York, Jan. 2.—Although she remained in the water more than twenty minutes, Miss Helen Wilcox of Staten Island, who went swimming in New York bay yesterday, feels no ill effects from her experience today. She is 22 years old and teaches school here in the city. Her plunge followed a wager made with a girl friend a year ago that she would be the first person to take a dip in the bay in 1909. As she lives near the water's edge, it was little trouble to don a bathing suit and slip into the water from her back yard.

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—A youth giving his name as Richard Haren and his home as Kansas City held up and robbed Mrs. Louis Smith and Mrs. F. S. Wyatt, two dressmakers of this city, last night, obtaining from them at the point of a pistol a few dollars in change. W. F. Chayman, president of the police and the first boards of Alameda, arrived on the scene in time to pursue and capture Haren, who was turned over to the police.

Clark's January Unloading Sale Is Now On

DRY GOODS, CLOAKS AND FURS SELLING AT HALF PRICE